

## CLAIMS: SETTLEMENT OF CASE OF BRIG "MORRIS"

*Convention signed at Quito February 9, 1850*  
*Entered into force February 9, 1850*

5 Miller 665 <sup>1</sup>

### CONVENTION

The undersigned, John Trumbull Van Alen, Chargé d'affaires of the United States of America and Antonio Mata, Plenipotentiary on the part of the Republic of the Ecuador, being duly authorized to conclude a convention for the payment of the debt of the Ecuador, on account of the indemnification claimed by the proprietors of the North American Brig "Morris", which was captured and sold by the authorities of Colombia <sup>2</sup> in the years eighteen hundred and twenty five and eighteen hundred and twenty six, have agreed to conclude and seal this affair, in all its respects, under the following articles.

ART. 1. The Government of the Ecuador obliges itself to pay, to the order of the Chargé d'affaires of the United States of North America, or to the order of any other person duly authorized by the Government of the United States, the sum of fourteen thousand and sixteen dollars and eighty two hundredths as follows: five thousand four hundred and eighty five dollars for the absolute indemnification of the principal of the losses and injuries which the persons interested in the North American Brig "Morris" have claimed of the Government of the Ecuador, through the Legation of their country, and eight thousand five hundred and thirty one dollars, and eighty two hundredths, for the current interest, at the rate of six per cent per annum from the twelfth of May, eighteen hundred and twenty five, the date of the capture, to the fifteenth of April, eighteen hundred and fifty one, the average time between the dates of payment, according to the conditions of the following article, it being stipulated that, in virtue of this Convention, the proprietors of the Brig "Morris" or persons interested shall have no right, hereafter, to prefer any new demand in relation to this subject.

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<sup>1</sup> For details of settlement, see 5 Miller 665.

<sup>2</sup> The state of "Greater Colombia," which gained independence from Spain in 1819, included the present states of Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, and Venezuela. In 1830-31 it split up into Ecuador, Venezuela, and the republic of New Granada, and by 1863 New Granada had become the United States of Colombia.

ART. 2. The payment of the capital and interest above expressed shall be made in the following manner, one half of the whole sum on the first of February, and the other half on the first of July, eighteen hundred and fifty one.

ART. 3. This convention shall be presented by the Executive of the Ecuador to the national Congress of this Republic, at its next session, in order that it may approve it and vote the sum necessary for carrying it into effect.

ART. 4. In case that conventions for payment have not been formed between the United States and the Republics of Venezuela and New Granada, relative to the case of the Brig "Morris", the Ecuador shall not be bound by this Convention.

In witness whereof, the undersigned have signed and sealed two copies of this convention, in the city of Quito, capital of the Republic of the Ecuador, on the ninth of February, eighteen hundred and fifty.

JOHN TRUMBULL VAN ALLEN [SEAL]

ANTONIO MATA [SEAL]